

Michigan's efforts to eradicate bovine tuberculosis; and

Whereas, With many other current and emerging plant and animal diseases, resources are challenged at both the federal and state levels to address these diseases adequately; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to continue providing assistance to Michigan to help eradicate bovine tuberculosis; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the United States Department of Agriculture.

POM-162. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Iowa relative to Best Buddies program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 22

Whereas, there are more than 7.5 million people with intellectual disabilities in the United States and as many as 250 million worldwide; and

Whereas, individuals with intellectual disabilities often experience isolation and exclusion from community activities because of limited opportunities to associate with persons other than their immediate family and paid workers; and

Whereas, Best Buddies is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships and integrated employment; and

Whereas, Best Buddies has grown from one chapter on one college campus to a vibrant, international organization involving participants annually on more than 750 middle school, high school, and college campuses in the United States, Canada, Cuba, Egypt, Greece, Ireland, and Sweden; and

Whereas, Best Buddies has touched the lives of over 175,000 individuals in its 13-year existence; and

Whereas, Best Buddies Iowa currently serves nine college chapters and nine high school chapters within our state and has a long-term goal of involving all schools within Iowa in its mission to bring friendship to individuals with intellectual disabilities; now therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate, That the Iowa Senate appreciates the work that Best Buddies Iowa performs and urges the federal government to continue to fund this program; and

Be it further resolved, That the Iowa Senate encourages state agencies, county central points of coordination, education providers, and area education agencies to work with Best Buddies Iowa to find additional funding for a middle school program and to further expand its current programs into additional communities; and

Be it further resolved, That copies of this Resolution be sent by the Secretary of the Senate to the President of the United States, the President of the Senate of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives; the majority and minority leaders of the United States Senate, the majority and minority leaders of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Iowa's congressional delegation.

POM-163. A resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the State of Kansas relative to the Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA); to the

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 6028

Whereas, The provisions of HIPAA are now in force with the stated purpose of simplifying health care administrative processes, and in the process, protecting individual privacy rights. Simplification is to be accomplished through the use of standardized, electronic transmission of administrative and financial data—which if successful should simplify health care record keeping and enhance the ability of private health insurance providers to process claims; and

Whereas, While the health and insurance industries may be aware of and executing the requirements of HIPAA, the recipients of health care, and individuals concerned of their condition, are confused and having difficulty comprehending the restrictions of the new procedures; and

Whereas, While patients have a right to their own health information, and while information regarding patients may be obtained by personal representatives or establishment of "significant other" relationships, it is urged information regarding whether a person is a patient at a facility, without disclosure of reason or condition, should be available to interested parties: now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Kansas: That we urge the Congress of the United States and implementing federal agencies to consider the provision of the information which does not disclose medically sensitive information to be available to inquiring persons; and

Be it further resolved: That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be directed to send an enrolled copy of this resolution to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representative and to each member of the Kansas legislative delegation.

POM-164. A joint resolution adopted by the House of the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Virginia relative to the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act of 2003; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 752

Whereas, funding for career and technical education, which was formerly known as vocational/technical education, was initiated in 1917 by Congress with the passage of the Smith-Hughes Vocational Education Act and an appropriation of \$1.7 million in support of state programs across the country; and

Whereas, Congressional funding for career and technical education has been continuous since 1917 and was extended by the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act of 1984; and

Whereas, total federal funding for career and technical education in the 2003 fiscal year was \$1.3 billion, of which Virginia is receiving nearly \$25 million in basic grant funds and another \$2.5 million in tech prep grant funds; and

Whereas, 85 percent of Virginia's state grant or nearly \$18 million is being distributed to local school divisions, while more than \$3.1 million is being distributed to the Virginia Community College System and the remaining \$3.7 million is allocated to the Department of Education for state administration of career and technical education programs, including assessment, training, professional development, and improvement of academic skills; and

Whereas, local school divisions depend on the federal funding of career and technical education to accomplish many goals, including, but not limited to, strengthening students' academic, vocational, and technical

skills, implementing industry certification programs, expanding the use of technology, providing professional development to career and technical teachers, involving parents, local businesses, and labor and industry leaders in the design, implementation, and evaluation of career and technical programs in order to meet the needs of the local economy and to comply with nationally adopted standards; and

Whereas, career and technical education programs benefit Virginia's economy by providing crucial training to students of various ability levels and economic backgrounds, including gifted and talented students, traditional high school students, students with disabilities, and students who are bound for college and those who are bound for the world of work; and

Whereas, the Virginia Standards of Quality require career and technical education programs in the public schools that are "infused into the K through 12 curricula that promote knowledge of careers and all types of employment opportunities," and "competency-based career and technical education programs, which integrate academic outcomes, career guidance and job-seeking skills for all secondary students"; and

Whereas, Congress will take up reauthorization of this important law in the coming year and several proposals have been put forth that are troubling to local school divisions and suggest that consideration may be given to diverting the federal dollars to other priorities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, That the Congress of the United States be urged to continue the funding for career and technical education in public secondary and postsecondary schools when reauthorizing the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Act of 2003. The Congress also shall be urged, in order to maintain the vitality and success of Virginia's career and technical education programs in the Commonwealth's public secondary and postsecondary schools, to continue the funding of public career and technical education in an amount that will continue Virginia's \$27 million in funding or will increase this amount; and, be it

Resolved further, That the Clerk of the House of Delegates transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation so that they may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter.

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 1218. A bill to provide for Presidential support and coordination of interagency ocean science programs and development and coordination of a comprehensive and integrated United States research and monitoring program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. EDWARDS (for himself, Mr. SMITH, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1219. A bill to amend the national and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a Community Corps, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ALLARD (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SMITH, Mr. INOUE, Mr.

AKAKA, Mr. COLEMAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. CAMPBELL):

S. 1220. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend reasonable cost contracts under the medicare program, to expand the area in which plans offered under such contracts may operate, to apply certain provisions of the Medicare+Choice program to such plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1221. A bill to provide telephone number portability for wireless telephone service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. HAGEL):

S. 1222. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in determining eligibility for payment under the prospective payment system for inpatient rehabilitation facilities, to apply criteria consistent with rehabilitation impairment categories established by the Secretary for purposes of such prospective payment system; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1223. A bill to increase the number of well-trained mental health service professionals (including those based in schools) providing clinical mental health care to children and adolescents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 1224. A bill to expand the powers of the Attorney General to regulate the manufacture, distribution, and sale of firearms and ammunition, and to expand the jurisdiction of the Attorney General to include firearm products and nonpowder firearms; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1225. A bill entitled the "Greater Access to Affordable Pharmaceuticals Act"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1226. A bill to coordinate efforts in collecting and analyzing data on the incidence and prevalence of developmental disabilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1227. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of substitute adult day services under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 1228. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for property owners who remove lead-based paint hazards; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 1229. A bill to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. HOLLINGS):

S. Res. 163. A resolution commending the Francis Marion University Patriots men's golf team for winning the 2003 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Men's Golf Championship; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. REED, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SANTORUM, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 164. A resolution reaffirming support of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and anticipating the commemoration of the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Genocide Convention Implementation Act of 1987 (the Proxmire Act) on November 4, 2003; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FRIST:

S. Res. 165. A resolution commending Bob Hope for his dedication and commitment to the Nation; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAFEE, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. Con. Res. 52. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States Government should support the human rights and dignity of all persons with disabilities by pledging support for the drafting and working toward the adoption of a thematic convention on the human rights and dignity of persons with disabilities by the United Nations General Assembly to augment the existing United Nations human rights system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 221

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to facilitate an increase in programming and content on radio that is locally and independently produced, to facilitate competition in radio programming, radio advertising, and concerts, and for other purposes.

S. 271

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 271, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an additional advance refunding of bonds originally issued to finance governmental facilities used for essential governmental functions.

S. 274

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 274, a bill to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, and for other purposes.

S. 300

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr.

ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Jackie Robinson (posthumously), in recognition of his many contributions to the Nation, and to express the sense of Congress that there should be a national day in recognition of Jackie Robinson.

S. 451

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 451, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the minimum Survivor Benefit Plan basic annuity for surviving spouses age 62 and older, to provide for a one-year open season under that plan, and for other purposes.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 518, a bill to increase the supply of pancreatic islet cells for research, to provide better coordination of Federal efforts and information on islet cell transplantation, and to collect the data necessary to move islet cell transplantation from an experimental procedure to a standard therapy.

S. 557

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 595

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the required use of certain principal repayments on mortgage subsidy bond financings to redeem bonds, to modify the purchase price limitation under mortgage subsidy bond rules based on median family income, and for other purposes.

S. 610

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 610, a bill to amend the provisions of title 5, United States Code, to provide for workforce flexibilities and certain Federal personnel provisions relating to the National Aeronautics